

Serial No. 10/657,884

Amendments to the Claims

1-18. (Cancelled)

19. (New) In a caulking gun, the caulking gun having a container filled with an extrudable material to be dispensed, means for forcing the material out of the container, and a tip, the tip being configured to receive the material being ejected from the container and to distribute the material through a plurality of spaced-apart openings formed in an outlet portion of the tip, the outlet portion having upper and lower surfaces which are spaced apart to define a thickness of the outlet portion, the outlet portion having a pair of lateral edges defining a width of the outlet portion, said width being greater than said thickness,

the improvement wherein the tip includes a guide, the guide being located at only one of said lateral edges, wherein at least a portion of the guide extends outside a plane of one of said surfaces, and wherein another of said lateral edges is free of any guide.

20. (New) The improvement of Claim 19, wherein the guide includes a generally planar wall, wherein the planar wall defines a surface which is generally perpendicular to one of the surfaces of the outlet portion.

21. (New) The improvement of Claim 19, wherein the guide has a thickness, and wherein the width of the outlet portion of the tip is at least ten times greater than the thickness of the guide.

22. (New) In a caulking gun, the caulking gun having a container filled with an extrudable material to be dispensed, means for forcing the material out of the container, and a tip, the tip being configured to receive the material being ejected from the container and to distribute the material through a plurality of spaced-apart openings formed in an outlet portion of the tip, the tip having a pair of lateral edges defining a width of the outlet portion of the tip, the outlet portion of the tip including upper and lower surfaces which are generally parallel to each other,

the improvement wherein the tip includes first and second guides, the guides being located at said lateral edges, wherein said first guide extends above said upper surface and does not extend below said lower surface, and wherein said second guide extends below said lower surface and does not extend above said upper surface, wherein said first and second guides are oriented in mutually opposite directions.

23. (New) The improvement of Claim 22, wherein said first guide includes a first generally planar wall, wherein the first planar wall defines a surface which is generally perpendicular to said upper surface, and wherein said second guide includes a second generally planar wall, wherein the second planar wall defines a surface which is generally perpendicular to said lower surface.

24. (New) The improvement of Claim 22, wherein the guides are of equal thickness, and wherein the width of the outlet portion of the tip is at least ten times greater than said thickness.

25. (New) A tip for a caulking gun, comprising:

a) a shank defining a passage for extrudable material,

b) an outlet portion, connected to the shank, the shank defining a fluid passage which is in communication with a plurality of passages formed in said outlet portion, the passages terminating in a plurality of spaced apart openings, the outlet portion having upper and lower surfaces which are spaced apart to define a thickness of the outlet portion, the outlet portion having a pair of lateral edges defining a width of the outlet portion, the width being greater than said thickness, and

c) a guide connected to only one of said lateral edges of the outlet portion of the tip, the guide extending outside a plane of one of said surfaces, wherein another of said lateral edges is free of any guide.

26. (New) A tip for a caulking gun, comprising:

a) a shank defining a passage for extrudable material,

b) an outlet portion, connected to the shank, the shank defining a fluid passage which is in communication with a plurality of passages formed in said outlet portion, the passages terminating in a plurality of spaced apart openings, the outlet portion including two lateral edges and upper and lower surfaces, extending between said lateral edges, said upper and lower surfaces being generally parallel to each other, and

c) first and second guides, the guides being located at said lateral edges, wherein said first guide extends above said upper surface and does not extend below said lower surface, and wherein said second guide extends below said lower surface and does not extend above said upper surface, wherein said first and second guides are oriented in mutually opposite directions.

27. (New) An attachment for use with a conventional caulking tip, the conventional caulking tip comprising a shank connected to an outlet portion, the outlet portion including a plurality of internal channels which terminate in a plurality of spaced-apart openings,

the attachment comprising a body having clips for attachment of the body to the conventional tip, the body having upper and lower surfaces which are spaced apart to define a thickness of the body, the body having a pair of lateral edges defining a width of the body, the width being greater than said thickness, the body having a guide which is located in a vicinity of only one of said lateral edges, wherein another of said lateral edges is free of any guide, and wherein the guide extends outside a plane of one of said surfaces.

28. (New) An attachment for use with a conventional caulking tip, the conventional caulking tip comprising a shank connected to an outlet portion, the outlet portion including a plurality of internal channels which terminate in a plurality of spaced-apart openings,

the attachment comprising a body having clips for attachment of the body to the conventional tip, the body having a pair of lateral edges and upper and lower surfaces, the upper and lower surfaces being generally parallel to each other, the body having first and second guides, said guides being located at said lateral edges, wherein said first guide extends above said upper surface and does not extend below said lower surface, and wherein said second guide extends below said lower surface and does not extend above said upper surface, wherein said first and second guides are oriented in mutually opposite directions.

29. (New) A method of applying an extrudable material to an elongated structure, comprising:

a) providing a tip having an outlet portion defining a pair of spaced apart planar surfaces defining a thickness and two lateral edges, wherein the lateral edges are spaced apart by an amount greater than said thickness, the tip having a guide connected to the tip at one of said lateral edges, another of said lateral edges being free of any guide, at least a portion of the guide extending outside a plane of one of said planar surfaces,

b) connecting the tip to a caulking gun,

c) engaging the guide with an edge of an elongated structure, and

d) extruding a material from the caulking gun while moving the tip along the elongated structure, while holding the guide in engagement with the edge of the elongated structure.

30. (New) A method of applying an extrudable material to an elongated structure, comprising:

a) providing a tip having an outlet portion defining upper and lower surfaces, the surfaces being generally parallel to each other, the tip having first and second guides connected to lateral edges of the tip, wherein said first guide extends above said upper surface and does not extend below said lower surface, and wherein said second guide extends below said lower surface and does not extend above said upper surface, wherein said first and second guides are oriented in mutually opposite directions,

b) connecting the tip to a caulking gun,

c) selecting one of said first and second guides, and engaging the

selected guide with an edge of an elongated structure, and

d) extruding a material from the caulking gun while moving the tip along the elongated structure, while holding the selected guide in engagement with the edge of the elongated structure.

31. (New) The method of Claim 30, further comprising the step of reversing an orientation of the tip so as to select another guide which is different from the guide selected in step (c), and performing step (d) with said another guide in engagement with the edge of the elongated structure.